

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1,5, 7, 11, 13 and 14 15 and 16 are amended. No new matter is introduced.

The Office Action rejects claims 15 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. §101 claims 15 and 16 are amended to obviate this rejection.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-16 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Enomota (U.S. Patent No. 6,801,344 B1) in view of Li et al (U.S. Application No.2003/0076521) This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Office Action asserts that Enomota discloses "image rendering commands". However, Applicant respectfully submits that Enomota does not disclose or suggest "when said predetermined image rendering command is not usable, simulates ... using an image rendering command that can be used by said image rendering means ...", as recited in claim 1 and similarly recited in claims 7, 13 and 14.

Enomota discloses a index print producing system. The index print producing system comprising a CCD scanner 14, image processing section 15 and laser printer section 18. The CCD scanner scans an image. However, Enomota does not disclose predetermined image rendering command. The image data scanned by CCD scanner 14 contains no commands.

Enomota discloses that the user can accept or reject processed images (C. 37 L. 7-16). However, Enomota does not disclose user inputting image rendering commands of any kind. Thus, Enomota does not disclose a predetermined image rendering command or an image rendering command that can be used by said image rendering means. Thus, Enomota does not disclose or suggest the subject matter of claims 1, 7, 13 and 14.

Further, the Office Action admits that Enomota does not disclose a function for placing an inquiry with said image rendering means as to whether a predetermined image rendering command is usable or not, but that Li supplies the missing subject matter.

However, Applicant respectfully submits that Li does not disclose "when said predetermined image rendering command is not usable, simulates ... using an image rendering command that can be used by said image rendering means", as recited in claim 1 and similarly recited in claims 7, 13 and 14.

Li discloses a verification sequence to determine if a user has access to a printer associated with a selected utility. If no such printer is available the client is denied access to the utility paragraph, see [0019]. However, Li does not disclose simulating the utility to which access is denied with a utility that is available. Li and Enomota, even if combined though improperly, would not have disclosed or suggested the subject matter of claims 1, 7, 13 and 14, because Enomota does not disclose a predetermined image rendering command and so cannot provide predetermined commands to simulate not usable commands, and Li does not disclose a simulated utility for utilities denied access to. Thus, Li and Enomota individually or in combination do not disclose or suggest the subject matter of claims 1, 7, 13 and 14.

Claims 2-6 depend from claim 1, claims 8-12 depend from claim 7 claim 15 depends from claim 13 and claim 16 depends from claim 14. Thus, Li and Enomota individually or in combination do not disclose or suggest the subject matter of claims 2-6, 8-12, 15 and 16. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-16 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully solicited.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-16 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'James A. Oliff', written over a horizontal line.

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